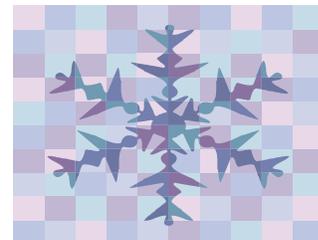


Northern Lights

Weekly News and Notes from Hanna, Elk Mountain, and Medicine Bow Elementary Schools



Reminder: Friday, December 19 is a regular school day with an early release at 1:00.



It was "Christmas at the OK Corral" in Elk Mountain. The string band and the musical were absolutely wonderful.

Next Week

Monday

4:00 School Board Meeting at Central Office in Saratoga

1st day of JH Girls Basketball Practice

Tuesday

HES Principal's December Birthday Lunch

12:15 HES 4th Grade Gingerbread Houses

Wednesday

6:30 HES Christmas Program

Thursday

Friday

School Day-early release at 1:00

Q: What name did the English teacher have for Santa's elves?

A: Subordinate Clauses



Notes from the Principal

This week, many of our students began taking the MAP assessment in Math and Language Arts. Unlike the required fall and spring assessments, giving this computer-based assessment at midyear was optional for teachers. Most have chosen to administer the assessment to gauge progress and to make adjustments to instruction for the remainder of the year. The window for giving this assessment actually extends into the first two weeks of January, though most have chosen to at least start this week. All kindergarten students are being given the midyear MAP as they did not take it in the fall.

I'm sure that you discussed the fall results and student goals at our November parent-teacher conferences. Working with the teacher, students developed goals for how they would score by the end of the year. Many chose to set a goal to achieve the expected growth while others chose to push beyond that. Looking at some of the early results, several students have already achieved their goal. In that case, I will encourage the students along with their teachers to set a revised goal for the end of the year. I would also encourage you to discuss the results and goals with your child as support from home will result in greater achievement.

Goal setting is not only important in school assessments. Learning to set challenging but attainable goals and developing strategies to achieve them is a life skill. In this week's folder, you will find an article on working with your child on goals. I hope you find it useful.

Thank you to all of you who attended the Elk Mountain Music Program. The kids, and Mrs. Felton did a great job. I am looking forward to the Medicine Bow program this evening and Hanna's program on Wednesday. Thanks for your support of our schools and our kids.

-Mr. Shipp



Students enjoyed decorating (and eating) cookies at our Friday enrichment activity.